

BUTTE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Zoom Meeting, Online 3:00PM - 5:00PM

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Call to Order at 3:02 PM

1. **Public Comment – None.**
2. **Introductions** – Round-robin introductions were made of all present.
3. **Roll Call: Members Present:** Hilary Herman, Peggy Schrader, Ron Serrano, Joey Brett, Nancy Brower, Narinder Sufi, Nikki Sandoval, Patrick Newell, Michelle Deese.

Absent: Amy Sperske, Vince Haynie

Guests: Heidi Mitchell, Francis Hebert, Kenny Abramowitz, Cynthia Pustejovsky, Janae Kambestad, Kathy Brazil
4. **Approval of meeting Minutes (Attachment 1) from January 20, 2021 meeting**
– A motion was made to approve the minutes by Ms. Brower.
Seconded by Mr. Serrano. Motion approved unanimously.
5. **Correspondence – None.**
6. **Branch Manager’s Report – Cynthia Pustejovsky, Paradise Branch Librarian:**
Ms. Pustejovsky shared that Paradise is beginning to rebuild and more patrons are coming in and using the library services. Patrons are happy for the convenience to be able to come in and use the Wi-Fi instead of sitting in their vehicles. Mr. Abramowitz shared that the number of patrons has quadrupled since July 2020. Many patrons are surprised that the Library is open but are so thankful that the Library is still here after all the fires. Mr. Abramowitz shared that there are many people who really need the services that the Paradise Branch is providing.
7. **Library Director’s Report – (Attachment 2)**
Ms. Sufi shared that the Director’s report is attached and inquired if anyone had questions. Ms. Sufi explained that the Mobile library is in the works however, there is a delay of about 90 days. The contractors are hoping to make up the delay during production but are currently behind.

Ms. Sufi shared that the Board of Supervisors approved the resolution making April National Library Month in Butte County. As we begin to open up more in Butte County, we are looking at providing more in person services and hope to

provide a fun and safe Summer Reading Program, which will begin in June. Ms. Sufi shared that the County has revamped their onboarding of volunteers, so the library is working on our Volunteer process so we can onboard volunteers quickly and efficiently.

8. NVCF Quarterly Report (Attachment 3)

The NVCF Quarterly Reports were provided. The Board would like to ensure that NVCF is sweeping the interest as they should.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

a. District and Board Member Photographs

Discussion on the Board Member photographs to take a picture of the Board Members via Zoom and it was agreed to take a screen shot of LAB members at the end of the meeting.

b. Discuss Meeting in Person at July meeting.

Mr. Newell asked if it was reasonable to meet in person in July. The consensus was that everyone would like to meet in person with mitigation in place to ensure everyone is socially distanced and following the protocols offered by Butte County Health Department. Meeting to be held in the Oroville Branch meeting room baring the County remains open.

c. Strategize on how to meet with our representatives/supervisors to love on the Library and share what is happening with them.

- i. What talking points do we want to support the?
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- ii. Do you think this is a good way to proceed?
- iii. Should we invite our supervisors to attend our LAB meetings? Invite district 1 to attend our meeting.
- iv. We are embracing new technology
- v. Narinder will be attending BOS meetings.
- vi. Make sure your Supervisor “knows” you.
- vii. Invite BOS to receive the LIB newsletter
- i. Sharing about sustainable funding and what the LAB can bring to the table as the library moves forward into the 21st century and meet the needs of the Library.**
The Board discussed what previously had been done for sustainable funding and what the LAB can do to move this forward. The long-term goal is to have a Subcommittee that would move this initiative forward, but before this can begin, it will be necessary to meet and build relationship with each Supervisor. After further discussion, it was agreed that at each LAB meeting the LAB members will identify talking points for the quarter that will be used in communicating with those outside the library and Supervisors. Talking points for the

quarter of May, June and July include the Library is changing people's lives and sharing about what the Grants are providing for the community. In addition, the Library is in the process of keeping positive impact stories that can be provided to the LAB as needed and at the LAB meetings.

d. LAB members Report - share any events and highlights since the last LAB meeting used to connect with their communities and promoting the Library

A few LAB members shared that they have been connecting with their Supervisor but have not had clear talking points and are happy that there will be talking points for moving forward. It was requested that LAB members report back at the next LAB meeting about what events and highlights they have been involved in with connecting to their respective communities and promoting the library.

e. NVCF Grants

i. 2020 Progress Project Reports

1. Increasing E-Resources for Displaced Residents - Kenny Abramowitz

Mr. Abramowitz shared that the Library has 12 android tablets, with data and we are only paying for the data. There are 4 located in Chico, 4 in Oroville, and 4 in Paradise. The tablets have on screen instructions and need a Gmail account to work. Mr. Abramowitz shared that the library has added more e-books to overdrive.

2. Ready Where You Are – Kenny Abramowitz

Mr. Abramowitz shared that there are 6 hotspots housed in Paradise. These hotspots provide internet/wifi where they can get a telephone signal. It is a special government program that we are using to make this happen. Mr. Abramowitz shared that the patrons are checking them out regularly.

3. The Curious Minds Homeschool Club – Kathy Brazil

Ms. Brazil shared that she provides Monthly Take home enrichment kits for the kids. Each kit offers an activity sheet, with lots of ideas to create fun family connections. Including a variety of guide sheets; word search puzzles, poetry, charades and storytelling prompts as well as a list of library books and resources.

The Curious Minds Homeschooling Club take home kits have reached some new families, and just last week a grandmother brought her granddaughter in to specifically ask for the April kit, the child excitedly asked on her own and the gramma said "She likes to stay busy".

The Curious Minds Homeschooling Club continues to fill more unmet needs of offering families creative connections with their local library as many more children face the challenges of learning at home.

The grant funding has been budgeted and used frugally to offer the most resourceful take home kits and will be fully utilized by the end of the grant program.

j. 2021 Grant Review and Discussion.

Ms. Brower shared that the committee reviewed all of the Grant Applications and have brought forward 6 grants they believe would greatly benefit the people of Butte County through the Library System. Ms. Brower, on behalf of the committee, requested a motion to approve the Mural Grant totaling \$10,280.00; Library Training Sessions Grant totaling \$22,533.00; Book Club Grant Totaling \$3,000; YA Virtual Book Club Grant totaling \$2,500; Podcast Grant totaling \$1,320.00 and the REACH: Reconnect Engage Adults Creating Hope Grant totaling \$4,085.00 for a grand total of \$43,719.00 in NVCF Grant funds for the coming 2021-2022 Grant year. A motion was made to approve the 2021 NVCF Grant funds in the amount of \$43,719.00 by Ms. Brett seconded by Mr. Serrano. Motion Approved unanimously.

Mr. Newell thanked the review committee for reading all of the grant proposals and bringing such a great selection back to the LAB for decision.

11. Board Comments

- a. LAB members inquired as to when they could interject questions or how they should interject questions. Mr. Newell ensured LAB Members that they could inquire whenever; however, if a decision needed to be made on any topic that it be placed on the agenda with an Action request prior to the finalizing of the Agenda for said meeting.
- b. LAB members inquired about the Newspapers. Ms. Sufi Shared that we are working on renewing some of the newspapers and have recently acquired digital access through NewsBank to many other newspapers.

12. Review of Assignments / Actions for the next meeting –

- a. LAB identify talking points for the next quarter.
- b. LAB members Report - share any events and highlights since the last LAB meeting used to connect with their communities and promoting the Library.
- c. At the July meeting, have 2020 NVCF Final Grant Reports submitted.
- d. Take District and Board member Photographs.
- e. Invite Supervisor Bill Connelly to attend the next LAB Meeting in Oroville.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:56pm PM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 – Oroville in person.